

REMARKS

The applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-30. Applicant also has made some minor changes to claims 24-30 to clarify some claim terms (without limiting the scope of the claims) and to correct a typographical error.

The entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

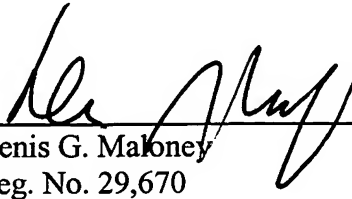
It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. Nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050 referencing attorney docket number 10559-610001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

8/1/01



Denis G. Maloney
Reg. No. 29,670

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906